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PATENT

Appl. No. 10/650,261
Amdt. dated September 18, 2006
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 1645

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) An apparatus comprising a molecular analyte layer and a film layer wherein:

(i) the molecular analyte layer comprises a molecular analyte immobilized on a molecular analyte solid support, wherein said molecular analyte comprises a molecular ligand binding site; and

(ii) the film layer comprises a molecular ligand zone having a molecular ligand, wherein, upon wetting of the molecular ligand zone, the molecular ligand can diffusibly migrate to the molecular ligand binding site of the molecular analyte to produce a detectable product.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein:

(i) said molecular analyte comprises a first component of a donor-acceptor pair;

(ii) said molecular ligand comprises a second component of said donor-acceptor pair; and

(iii) said detectable product is a complex between the molecular ligand and the molecular analyte, wherein the position of the first component of the donor-acceptor pair relative to the second component of the donor-acceptor pair allows detection of the complex.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said molecular analyte is a nucleic acid or a protein.

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17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said molecular ligand is a nucleic acid or a protein.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein:
(i) said molecular analyte comprises an enzyme;
(ii) said molecular ligand binding site is an active site of the enzyme;
(iii) said molecular ligand comprises an enzyme substrate; and
(iv) said detectable product is the enzyme substrate after being catalyzed by the enzyme.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said molecular analyte is immobilized on said molecular analyte solid support by binding said molecular analyte to a capture agent immobilized on said molecular analyte solid support, wherein said binding is a molecular analyte specific binding event.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said capture agent is a protein or nucleic acid.

21. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said film layer is a multilayered film layer, wherein said multilayered film layer comprises the molecular ligand zone and at least one additional zone, wherein said additional zone comprises a chemical or physical environment that is distinguishable from the molecular ligand zone.

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said additional zone is below said molecular ligand zone and is porous or water soluble.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said molecular ligand zone comprises a molecular ligand within a hydrogel.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein said hydrogel comprises acrylamide or agarose.

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25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said film layer comprises at least two molecular ligands, wherein said at least two molecular ligands are distributed in an array format.

26. (Cancelled)